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Ohio Mining Journal

Title: Report of the Secretary and Treasurer: For the Year of 1898

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Issue Date: 1898

Citation: Ohio Mining Journal, no. 27 (1898), 26-31.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/32794>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio Mining Journal: Whole no. 27 \(1898\)](#)

Report of the Secretary and Treasurer.

FOR THE YEAR OF 1898.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Institute :

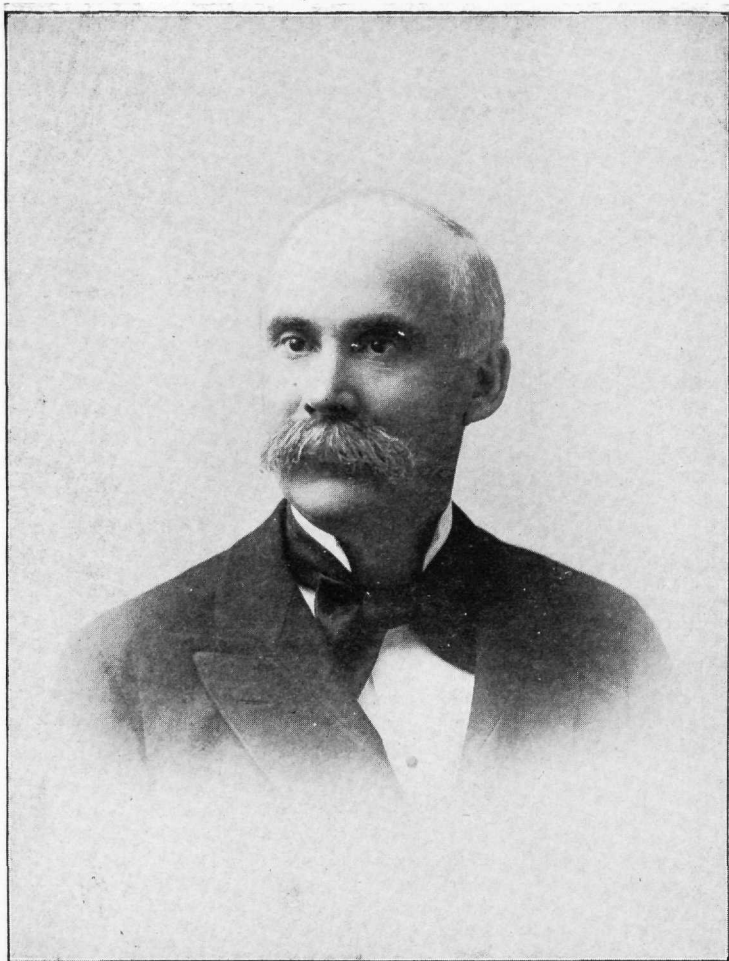
In presenting this the seventeenth annual report of the Ohio Institute of Mining Engineers, I have little to offer that is new. The transactions of the year just closed are but a repetition of the events that have occurred in years gone by, the only difference being that they may have occurred in different order.

The eighteenth year of the Institute's life closed to-day. On the roll of membership there appear 154 names. This is double the number that were inscribed upon the records at the close of the tenth year of the Institute's history, when you elected your present Secretary-Treasurer. At the close of the year of 1889, there were 75 names upon the roll of membership. Of this number, 24, or 32 per cent., were in arrears for their dues. Some of the names have since been stricken from the roll. New names have been added annually until, as before stated, the roll includes 154 persons.

During the past eight years the number who are in arrears for their dues have fluctuated, during the first four of which the percentage was reduced, while during the last four, which embraces the period of business depression, it has gradually increased.

The records of the year just closed show that 63 of the members, or 40 per cent. of the membership, are in arrears. Of this number, twenty-five have not paid dues for one year and their indebtedness equals \$50.00. Eight are in arrears for two years and owe \$32.00. Fifteen for three years, their indebtedness amounting to \$90.00. Eleven have not paid for four years and owe \$91.00, and four have not contributed for five years and are indebted \$40.00. It will be seen that the total indebtedness of the members amount to \$303.00.

I wish to recommend that those who are in arrears for four and five years be stricken from the roll, as it is a matter of great doubt if they will ever again actively cooperate with the work of the Institute, and there is little or no hope of ever collecting the \$130.00 which they owe. It is firmly believed that with the revival of business interests in the country, that the remainder



R. M. HASELTINE

will be paid during the coming year. There is no doubt but what much of this arrearage is due to the members being unable to attend the meetings. To this may be added the non-publication of the Ohio Mining Journal. In support of this theory it was noticed that upon the distributing of the last Journal Nos. 22-23, a number of the members who had been in arrears for several years promptly remitted. There is no doubt but what many others would do likewise if the proceedings of the last three years were published and distributed among the members.

It will be observed that 154 members, each contributing two dollars annually, furnishes a revenue of \$304.00. Of this amount, one-half is required for the incidental expenses of the Institute, making it imperative to look to other sources for means with which to publish the Journal. This requires a great deal of time and much labor. I have just undertaken the work of soliciting advertisements sufficient to secure the necessary funds with which to publish the Journal up to date. Whether I will bind them in one volume will depend upon the circumstances.

I wish to again call the attention of the members to the beneficial results that would accrue to the Institute if each one would send to the Secretary the name or names of such persons as, in their judgment, would become interested in the work. There are a great many who would join it if but invited to do so. By this means we would enlarge the distribution of our Journal and increase its value to our advertisers.

At the close of the preceding year there was in the Treasury \$22.11. During the year there was received for dues, etc., \$211.75. The expenses of conducting the Institute during the year have been \$133.59, thus leaving in the Treasury at the close of the year, \$100.27. Of the year's expenses \$35.95 was expended for the summer meeting. The balance of the expenses of this memorable trip, amounting to \$172.00, was borne by M. A. Hanna & Co., to whom the members of the Institute will always owe a debt of gratitude.

The chilly hand of death has again invaded our midst and has removed from our ranks two members who were both honored and esteemed by all who had the pleasure of their acquaintance. While the members were making their plans and enjoying the pleasant anticipation of the summer excursion, Mr. Jacob G. Chamberlain, one of the founders of the Institute, was stricken down in his home in Los Angeles, Cal. He passed to the Unseen Temple on May 30th. The sad news of his death came on the eve of our departure, and saddened the hearts of all who knew him. Upon the older members the blow fell with especial

force. His son, in acknowledgement of the receipt of his invitation to join the excursion, wrote the following letter:—

LOS ANGELES, CAL., June 6, 1897.

Mr. R. M. Haseltine, Secretary Ohio Institute of Mining Engineers, Columbus, Ohio,

MY DEAR SIR :

It is with the deepest sorrow I write this letter that you may know of the death of one of your warmest friends, Mr. J. G. Chamberlain, my father, who, after an illness of only four days passed to the Great Beyond last Sunday morning, May 30th, the cause being neuralgia of the heart.

Your invitation to accompany the members of the Ohio Institute and their guests the members of the Western Pennsylvania Central Mining Institute on their summer excursion to Sandusky, Kelleys Island, Lorain and Cleveland came too late for father to see.

Of all the associations with which he had been connected during his life, that of the Ohio Institute of Mining Engineers was dearest to him. His heart was always with it and its work. But beyond all this there was something much nearer to him and that was the personal friendship of its members, in which he was always happy, and I never knew him to mention an eastern trip that he did not seem delighted in the thought of meeting his old friends of your association.

In closing I can but extend my best wishes to the association my father so fondly loved, and express a desire for its continued success in the good work it has established.

Very sincerely yours,

S. G. CHAMBERLAIN.

At the request of the members the writer has in his humble way attempted to prepare a short biography of his life which is a magnificent guide for the youth of the land.

On the nineteenth of July after a few day's illness Mr. John Kane passed to the Great Beyond. Mr. Kane joined the Institute on January 18th, 1894, and always took an active interest in the work. At the time of his death he was a member of the Executive Committee. He was a striking example of a self-educated man. As to his early life, but little is known to the writer, and the duty of preparing a suitable testimonial was assigned to Mr. W. C. Pierce, the National Secretary of the United Mine Workers of America, who at this time is attending

the joint convention at Chicago. I desire that a motion shall prevail authorizing Mr. Pierce to prepare a suitable obituary for the Journal.

In conclusion, I wish to congratulate you upon the strength of the Institute after four long years of industrial depression. There is no doubt but each year its beneficial influences are increasing and unless some unforeseen calamity overtakes it, in a few years it will yield a powerful influence in the conducting of the mining industry of the state.

PRESIDENT RAY: Is there any discussion of these reports, or any questions to ask of the Secretary?

MR. COX: I think the recommendation that members who are four or five years behind in dues be dropped is mild. There are none of the members, I think, but can afford to pay two dollars, and if they let it go for four or five years, they do not deserve to be members. I think if a member gets behind one year, he ought to be dropped. Two dollars a year is cheap enough for the good one derives from it.

PRESIDENT RAY: It is in a good many cases the result of carelessness. I know I had a gentle reminder from the Secretary a little while ago, and it cost me eight dollars. I had not paid my dues for four years, simply through negligence, and I should have been greatly offended if I had been dropped without a stiff reminder. I think we should agree that if members are in arrears for three, or two, or one year and fail to pay after being duly warned, to then drop them.

PROFESSOR LORD: I think the key to the dues subject is the Journal. If the Journal is regularly published by the society, people will remit when they get the Journal; or if they fail to receive it, they will remit in order to get it. Payment of dues to a society that has meetings once or twice a year, unless the person attends, is likely to be overlooked. I know the same thing occurs in the American society. The dues are three dollars a year. At various times I have paid from three dollars for the current year up to fifteen dollars for back years; simply because they issue no regular Journal. They issue an annual volume of abstracts of the proceedings of the annual meeting, and it has

grown to be the custom to pay up when you go to a meeting. If we could issue the Journal regularly every year, or every six months, we could with that Journal collect our dues from practically all the members without trouble.

PRESIDENT RAY: I think the remarks very well taken.

SECRETARY HASELTINE: I will say that Professor Lord's idea is in harmony with my own in regard to the Journal. Several years ago, we published a small pamphlet, three or four times a year, but it became difficult to get enough papers to make one. Of late years, the members have written papers more elaborate than they were formerly, and prepared accompaniments with them in the shape of drawings, and in order to make a paper intelligible, it is necessary to have cuts made of the drawings and that adds largely to the expense. I think the last Journal cost \$340, and the one before that perhaps \$280. Now, with the limited amount of dues that is collected, it is impossible to publish a creditable Journal and our members have become accustomed to having a pretty respectable looking volume and would not care to go back to the pamphlet. The only means left is to solicit advertising. The early members will remember the great aversion there always has been to commonizing our work with advertisements.

Now, as to the people recommended to be dropped from the list. With one or two exceptions, they are people who have not attended the institute or ever paid. One I call to mind was connected with a manufacturing concern on the river. He moved to the middle of the state, and perhaps has left the state. I have no means of finding him. There are some whose addresses have been lost and I doubt whether they will ever reunite with us. But a great many are, as has been suggested, negligent, and pay when they come to a meeting; and some have been the victims of misfortune, have become discouraged and do not care to continue membership, or probably are unable to. About three years ago Professor Lord, President, wrote to quite a number who were in arrears and offered if they would pay four dollars, to reinstate them. A few accepted, but a very few, and these people of whom I speak mostly antedate that occasion.

I think they really owe more, but this was carried over. Then, if the Journal is published, comes the proposition of paying ten or twelve cents for postage to send it to people who are in arrears and who probably will never pay. That would be throwing good money after bad, as a business proposition. I will be glad to be governed in the matter by the sense of the Institute, and for that purpose brought the question before you for discussion.

PROFESSOR LORD: Is there any clause in the constitution which confers that power upon the executive committee?

SECRETARY HASELTINE: I do not recall any such clause in the constitution. I do not think the founders of the Institute ever thought anyone would allow himself to get into arrears.

PROFESSOR LORD: I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

Resolved, that whenever a member shall be in arrears for dues for three years, his name may be dropped from the list of members by action of the Executive Committee.

Seconded by Secretary Haseltine.

Resolution adopted.

PRESIDENT RAY: The Iowa Engineering Society in session sends the following communication from Cedar Rapids:

"The Iowa Engineering Society in session sends greetings and best wishes for a good meeting and a prosperous year." To which the Secretary replied: "The Ohio Institute of Mining Engineers in session wishes to acknowledge the receipt of your kind words of greeting and assure you they are reciprocated. May your society meet your fondest expectations is our prayer."

MR. JENNINGS: I move that Mr. Pierce, President of the United Mine Workers be authorized to write an obituary notice of Mr. John Kane for this society.

Seconded: carried.

Next paper, "What we Pay For," by F. C. Keighley, read by Mr. Llewellyn, as follows: